

Message Text

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SUBJECT: COMMUNIST LABOR DELEGATION VISITS MALI

REF: STATE 19585, PARIS 1810

1. GILBERT JULIS, CHIEF OF THE INTERNATIONAL SECTION OF THE FRENCH COMMUNIST GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF WORKERS (CGT), AND JEAN POINOU, ASSISTANT EDITOR OF LA VIE OUVRIERE VISITED BAMAKO JANUARY 28-30 ON INVITATION OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF MALIAN WORKERS (UNTM). THE CGT DELEGATION TOURED FACTORIES AND SOCIAL CENTERS, MET WITH MINISTER OF LABOR AND CIVIL SERVICE ASSIM DIAWARA AND HELD SEVERAL WORKING SESSIONS WITH THE UNTM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

2. INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE. IN A JOINT COMMUNIQUE BROADCAST ON RADIO MALI JANUARY 31, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES CHARACTERIZED THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AS UNDERGOING A CAPITALIST CRISIS WHICH ACCENTUATED ECONOMIC PRESSURES ON DEVELOPING STATES. THE COMMUNIQUE CLAIMED THAT IMPERIALISM IS CONTINUING ITS AGGRESSION AND EFFORTS AT COLONIAL RECONQUEST THROUGH MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND CAPITALISTIC INSTITUTIONS. THE UNTM AND THE CGT AGREED THAT THE

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FIGHT OF WORKERS IN CAPITALIST COUNTRIES FOR THEIR DEMANDS

AND THE FIGHT OF WORKERS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE FIGHT FOR SOCIAL AND NATIONAL LIBERATION. THE UNION LEADERS CONDEMNED SOUTH AFRICAN AGGRESSION IN ANGOLA, SUPPORTED THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE, PLEDGED SOLIDARITY WITH ALL THOSE FIGHTING IMPERIALISM, NEOCOLONIALISM, ETC. AND REAFFIRMED THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION, ESPECIALLY FOR THE SAHARAN PEOPLE.

3. COMMON EFFORTS. THE UNTM AND THE CGT DECIDED TO BROADEN CONTACTS AND PERIODICALLY COORDINATE EFFORTS TO WIN RIGHTS AND DEMANDS FOR IMMIGRANT MALIAN WORKERS IN FRANCE. THEY AGREED TO STRENGTHEN UNION CONTACTS AMONG AFRICAN AND CARIBBEAN STATES IN THEIR ASSOCIATION WITH THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY AND TO SEEK NEW ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WILL PERMIT DEVELOPING NATIONS TO REACH FULL INDEPENDENCE.

4. COMMENT: THE RADICAL LANGUAGE OF THE COMMUNIQUE IS NOT NEW TO THE UNTM'S IDEOLOGICAL LEXICON, THOUGH THE COMMUNIQUE IS MORE PRECISE THAN PREVIOUS ONES IN TYING THE WOES OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD TO THE "CRISIS OF CAPITALISM". SEYDOU DIALLO, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNTM, EXPLAINED TO EMBOFF THAT CGT HAS NO FUNDS AND COULD ONLY EXPORT IDEOLOGY. DIALLO ALSO TOOK PAINS TO POINT OUT THAT UNTM HAD FLATLY REFUSED TO INCLUDE TERM "RACIST" IN THE COMMUNIQUE'S RITUALISTIC CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL - A TERM WHICH JULIS HAD INSISTED BE INCLUDED. WE SHARE DIALLO'S SCEPTICISM THAT THE CLOSER COOPERATION PROMISED IN THE COMMUNIQUE WILL EVER TAKE PLACE.
NOTE: COPY OF COMMUNIQUE BEING POUCHED TO DEPT.
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